



World Gastroenterology Organisation

Global Guardian of Digestive Health. Serving the World

eNews

WGO E-Invitation

April 2008

50th Anniversary

Dear Colleague

You are cordially invited to join us in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the World Gastroenterology Organisation at a special reception during the upcoming DDW in San Diego, USA.



With its roots going back to 1935 (1st International Congress of Gastroenterology, Brussels) the World Gastroenterology Organisation was incorporated on 29 May 1958, with a mission to increase public awareness of, and to improve, education and training in digestive disorders. Since then the WGO has grown into the largest global community of gastroenterologists in the world.

Quick Links:

- [50th Anniversary Reception Program](#)
- [Click here to RSVP](#)
- [Afghanistan - a success story](#)

We shall be celebrating the last 50 years and launching the next 50 years of global gastroenterology education and training at our anniversary celebration in San Diego. We will be recognising those who have contributed great service to world gastroenterology in the past and launching our Global Mentor Fund.

Date 18th May 2008

Time 18:00 - 20:00

Venue Seaview Room
Marriott Hotel and Marina
333 West Harbour Drive
San Diego, CA 92101
» [View map](#)

Proceeds from this event will be donated to the Afghanistan Gastroenterology and Endoscopy Society, in memory of **Professor Martin Wienbeck**.

Professor Wienbeck, born on 27th December 1936 in Breslau, Germany (now Wroclaw Poland) was a leading gastroenterologist who dedicated his years after retirement to medical relief work in the Ali Abad Hospital in Kabul, Afghanistan. Here, among other accomplishments, he taught

Afghani women to use endoscopes. After discovering there was very little equipment / facilities left in the hospital after the devastation of the war, he transported endoscopes donated from hospitals in Germany and the USA to Kabul. He was a hard worker who was well-liked and became a father figure to many of his students.

He died in Kabul on April 27, 2005, aged 68 years, of head injuries sustained in a bicycle accident. Through the help of Professors Gugler and Sediqi, his work continues to this day.

In 2008, wide gaps remain in gastroenterology training and advanced endoscopy in Afghanistan. By donating the proceeds from this reception to our Afghanistan national society, we hope to aid Afghanistan in the education and training of gastroenterologists, GI assistants and nurses and in the acquisition of necessary equipment.

» [Read more](#)

I hope that you will join us in San Diego and contribute to the advancement of the work Professor Wienbeck began years ago. I welcome Joachim Wienbeck, Professor Wienbeck's son, as our guest of honour.

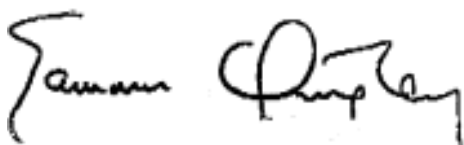
Please note that there is no fee for attendance and a raffle will be held, with many exciting prizes, to raise funds for the Afghani GI Society.

Visit www.worldgastroenterology.org for updates on the program and prizes.

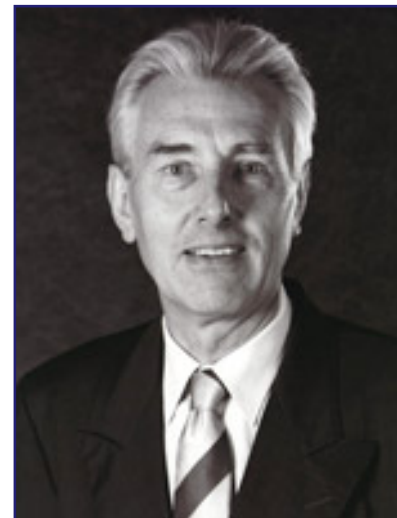
Together we can address the many challenges that face those who care for digestive disorders throughout the world; working together, we can make a difference!

I hope to see you in San Diego!

Yours sincerely,



Eamonn M.M. Quigley
President WGO



This e-newsletter promotes the activities of the WGO.

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